

REMARKS

The specification has been amended at pages 4 and 6 to correct obvious and inadvertent errors in the description of the claimed compound. The designation "m" for PE should represent the degree of polymerization. It is not meant to indicate the number of PE units present in the structure as pointed out by the Examiner. It is an obvious error. The definition of PA is also corrected so that it correctly states that PA is a polyalkylpolyamine, a linear or branched polyalkylene imine, a polyallylamine, a cycloaliphatic amine and a mixture of the PAs as defined. Since these are obvious errors, correction is allowed and entry of the amendment is requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly and distinctly claim the invention. Support for the amendment is found in the originally filed claim 1. No new matter has been entered hereby and entry of the amendment is requested.

RESPONSE

The Examiner imposed a requirement for restriction of the claims to two groups:

- I. Claims 1-52, drawn to polymeric species, classified in class 528, subclass 271; and
- II. Claims 53-57, drawn to polymeric compositions, classified in 524, subclass 599.

Applicant elects claims 1-52 of group I with traverse and cancels claims 53-57 without prejudice.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-52 were rejected for being indefinite on two grounds.

The Examiner pointed out that the definition of PA as a polyamine is incorrect since it is clearly stated that PA may be a polyalkylpolyamine, a polyalkylene imine, a polyallylamine, a cycloaliphatic amine. Amendment of claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon has been made. PA is now defined as being selected from the group consisting of polyalkylpolyamine, a polyalkylene imine, a polyallylamine, a cycloaliphatic amine.

The examiner also pointed out that since the definition of PE states that it has a molecular weight of 500-20,000, it is clear that m should represent the degree of polymerization and the number of units of PE that is attached to PA. Applicant accepts the Examiner's suggestion and has amended the structure of the claimed compound to correctly reflect that PE is a polyester with a molecular weight of between 500-20,000 and has a degree of polymerization, m, in the range of 1-100.

The amendment is made to correct obvious errors and not to narrow the scope of the invention. As amended it is believed that claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon are now clear and definite and the rejection on this ground is now moot.


No other issues were raised. It is believed that the claims as amended are allowable and an early allowance is requested.

Applicant's attorney wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended during the telephone conversation regarding the restriction requirement and the problems with the definitions of PA and PE. The Examiner's helpful suggestions are deeply appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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